Building Paradise

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PUBLIC ART AT BRUCE'S BEACH

APRIL BANKS / MEZOSTUDIO

APRILBANKS.ART@GMAIL.COM

SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

“This is a counter-archive, a living diagram, a way through. This is not nostalgia. This is activation. ”

—Muindi Fanuel Muindi and OD Enobabor

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Historical Reference



Two couples standing on a walkway at Bruce’s Beach, Manhattan Beach, circa 1920. (Miriam Matthews Photograph Collections, Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA)



Beachgoers Louise & Byron Kenner in front of Bruce’s Beach, circa 1920. Courtesy of the Miriam Matthews Photograph Collections, Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.



Wedding portrait of Charles Aaron and Willa A. Bruce. (California African American Museum)

James Slaughter (Miriam Matthews Photograph Collections, Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA)



Historical Reference



Design Narrative

Building Paradise offers an intimate space for community connection and will stand as a marker for community healing. Familiar and familial in form, ***Building Paradise*** is an abstraction of a beach cottage and celebrates the lives and dreams of Black families who were building their paradise by the beach. This concept commemorates the vision of Willa and Charles Bruce and all the pioneering Black homeowners and entrepreneurs who sought to create a vibrant coastal community during a time of racial segregation.

The proposed artwork considers the current scale of the surrounding residential area, historical vernacular and archival references while respecting the park's current value to provide open green space with vast views of the ocean. The artwork's footprint consists of two facades, each standing at ten feet tall and five feet wide on individual concrete footings, representing the built environment that once was, as well as the social lives of those who called this place home.

The "exterior" wall is designed with patterned brickwork with details of indigo and cobalt blue that are visible from the inside and outside. The brickwork pays homage to the building skills of black laborers who migrated west and laid the foundation for new black communities who sought beauty along California's coastline. The blue bricks are a nod to improvisational designs crafted from leftover and available material (like quilts) as well as Southern blue bottle trees meant to protect family and home.

The "interior" walls depict the domestic and leisure lives of the community and everyday beachgoers. Historical figures stand in front of "wallpaper" or backdrops that might be found in a photo studio. Presented in sepia hues of hand-cut, mosaic glass tile, these figures reflect the heyday of the Bruce's Beach Resort and the emerging community. The images address viewers with proud and comfortable expressions that convey a sense of being "at home at the beach". The sepia mosaic figures are seated or stand in front of blue and white ceramic backgrounds that read as vintage toile, depicting the tropical scenes popular in homes of the early twentieth century.

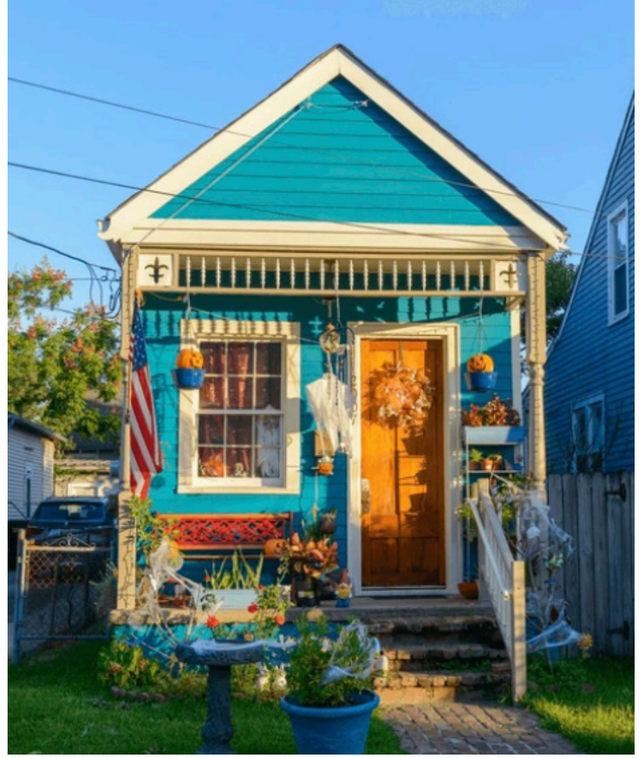
The two facades are linked by an arched passageway and a split roofline.The passageway invites visitors to move between and around the artwork, creating a simultaneous inside and outside experience. The design references beach cottages of the time and encourages contemplation on the beauty that may have come if the community continued to develop through architectural styles and personal tastes over the decades.

My hope is that visitors will pay homage to the legacy erased by eminent domain, walk through and around the artwork and feel a sense of memorial, celebration and pride that this history has been commemorated publicly and not forgotten.

Migration of Style









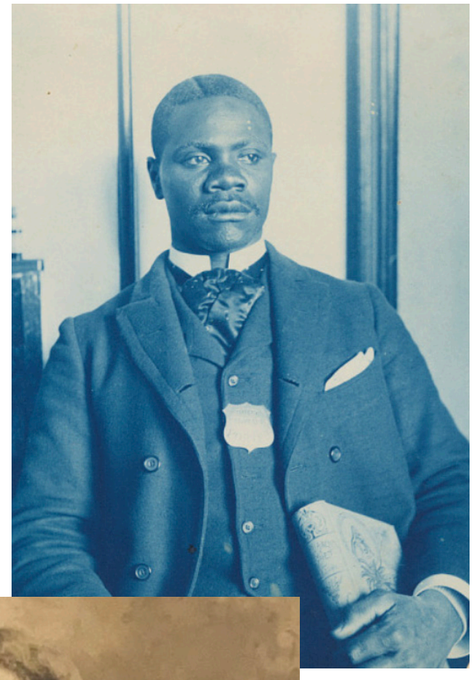
Archive of Color









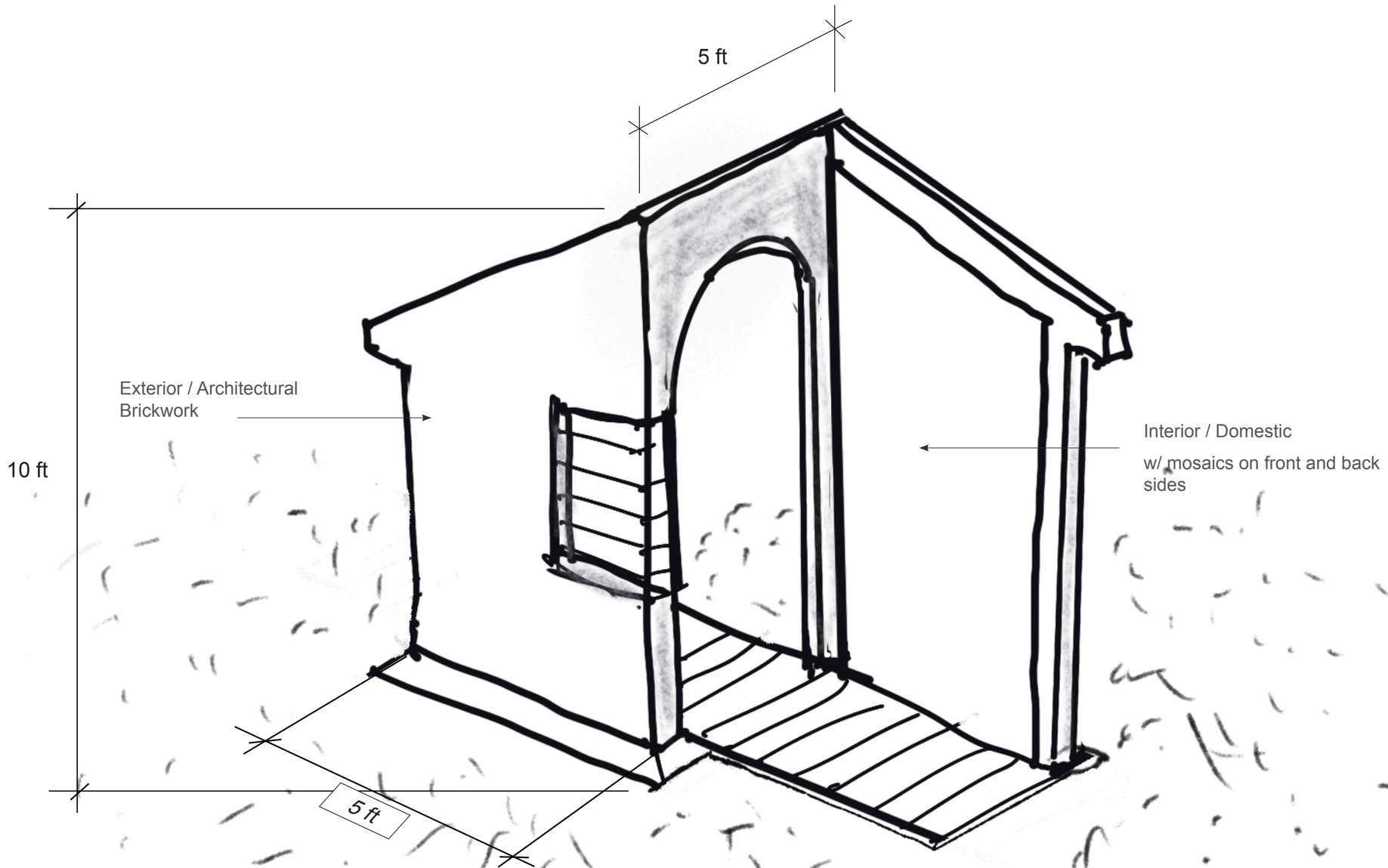


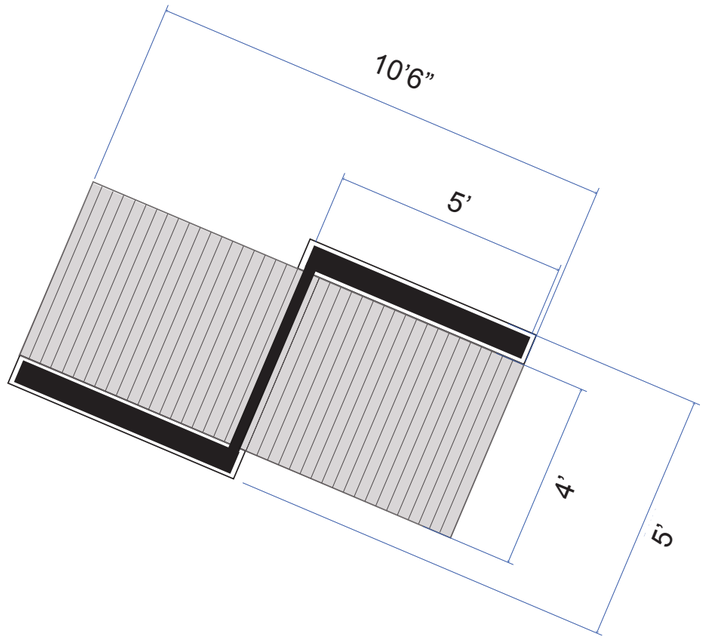


Preliminary Concept






5 ft
10 ft
Exterior / Architectural
Brickwork
Interior / Domestic
w/ mosaics on front and back
sides
5 ft



ARTWORK ROTATED TO
CREATE GREATER VISIBILITY
TO TERRACES BELOW





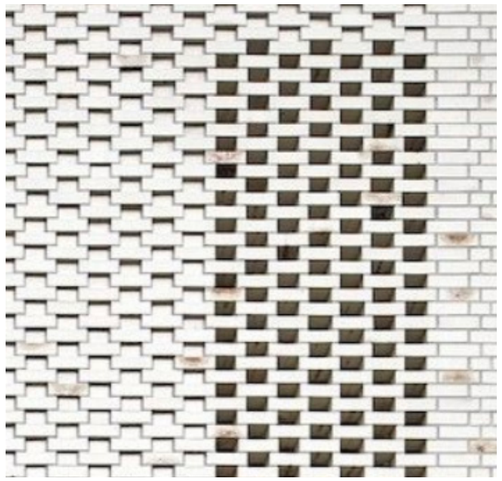




Materials

Brick “Exterior Wall”









I will create a brickwork patterns, rotating bricks to make distinct patterns with open screen or breeze block techniques and occasional blue brick

Mixed Technique Tile “Interior Wall”

The mixed material technique will create a contrasting backdrop, like a wallpaper, for the people in sepia glass.



Photos of people: handcut smalti





Backdrops: cured cyanotype transfer on ceramic tile

Bostik Dimension Colors & Sizes

	Diamond - H600
	Opal - H610
	Amber - H621
	Aventurine - H622
	Citrine - H640
	Aquamarine - H660
	Moonstone - H670
	Hematite - H671
	Onyx - H680
	Snowflake - H690
	Polar White - H691

Grout: Glass infused urethane

Concrete Slab / Base



Stamped concrete slab

Dimension® RapidCure™

GLASS-FILLED, PRE-MIXED, URETHANE GROUT

KEY FEATURES

- Blends naturally with tile
- No sealing required
- Highly crack resistant

DESCRIPTION

Dimension®. RapidCure™. Glass-Filled, Pre-Mixed, Urethane. Grout is. a patented, water based, urethane grout. Dimension® RapidCure™ contains. reflective, micro-glass. beads. and a translucent, urethane. binder. which both reflects. light as. well as. allows. it to. pass. through.. This creates. a variety. of. aesthetic. effects. in virtually. all tile options. available today. It may add an. elegant sparkle and/or. blend naturally. with traditional. tile. and. stone.. It also. creates a. unique. three. dimensional effect within clear glass tile installations.

Dimension® RapidCure™ offers. HXD™. Technology.. HXD™. Technology. enables only Bostik to. offer. the. highest. performance resin system. of. any pre-mixed. grout available. The resin. system is the most important. factor in grout performance. This breakthrough in polymer. chemistry. enables. Bostik. premium, pre-mixed. grouts. to. offer unmatched. toughness, water and. stain. resistance.

Bostik HXD™. Technology. contains an exceptionally high concentration. of cross-linking molecules. This results in a larger, more unified polymer structure or. macro-molecule, which is more durable and resistant to. penetration and. staining from fluids. These superior characteristics. provide. unmatched performance. in wet. environments, which is. further enhanced. by. proprietary. additives. that. repel. stains. like no. other. pre-mixed. grout.

Dimension®. RapidCure™. is designed to. have the perfect. balance. of. physical. properties. in. order to provide. flexibility, strength and. adhesion, making. urethane. grouts an excellent choice for. a. wide. variety. of. applications.

Dimension® RapidCure™ offers unmatched flexibility and toughness, which when used with Bostik Glass-Mate™. glass tile mortar, offers. the most robust system available for glass tile installation. This system. is engineered to optimally accommodate the thermal expansion and contraction. inherent. in. glass. tile.. This. unique feature. set. results. in. an installation that is significantly. less prone to tile or. grout. cracking. due to. severe temperature. fluctuations. Dimension®. RapidCure™. contains. a built-in. urethane. sealer. technology, so. it. never needs to. be sealed for the life. of. the. installation and it also installs up to 50%. faster. than traditional grouts.. Dimension®. RapidCure™.. is. approved. for intermittent. water. exposure after only 3. days. of. cure..



Suitable applications include interior and exterior, residential and commercial installations with ceramic, porcelain, glass, metal, and. natural stone. tiles. on floors. and walls. in. dry. to intermittent. wet. applications. It can be used in horizontal (floor) grout joint widths from 1/16" to 1/2". and vertical (wall). grout joints. from 1/16". to. 1/4".. Dimension®. RapidCure™ contains. Bostik's. Blockade® antimicrobial. protection, which inhibits the. growth of bacteria, mold, and mildew. on the surface. of. cured grout and. enables it to. resist stains. caused. by mold.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Description	Results
Water. Cleanability. (per. ANSI. 118.3)	Pass
Density	14.8 lbs/gal
Vertical Joint Sag. (per. ANSI. 118.3)	Pass
Installation Temperature Range	40°F – 100°F (4°C – 38°C)
Shelf. Life	2 years. (in. original unopened container)
Water. Absorption	<1%
Compressive Strength	>3,500 psi*
Tensile. Strength	510. psi
VOC Content	35. g/L (as calculated. by. SCAQMD. Rule # 1168)
Recycled. Content	60% pre-consumer. recycled glass

*Test. results were. performed. in an. actual grout. joint.

This supersedes and replaces in its. entirety. all. previously published versions of this document. T1333. (Last. revised. on 12.13.16)

Dimension®. RapidCure™. is a. revolutionary. new. technology. which. employs. state-of-the-art urethane. chemistry. As. yet, there is no. current. ANSI or. ASTM standard for this technology. (ANSI 118.3 pertains only. to. epoxy grout products); however, for comparative purposes, physical and. chemical properties are. listed. on. previous page.

PRODUCT BENEFITS

- Unique reflective appearance
- 3 day intermittent water exposure
- No. color. fading, streaking or. shading
- Chemical and. stain resistant
- No. sealing required. ever!
- Highly. crack-resistant
- Premixed and. ready to. use
- Fast,. easy. installation–installs up to. 50% faster than other grouts
- Excess. product can be. saved and used later (when stored properly. in original container)
- UV stable–Colors will not yellow or fade
- Bostik's. Blockade® antimicrobial. protection
- Dust-free mixing
- Easy. water clean up
- Non-sag formula ideal for vertical surfaces
- May contribute to USGBC LEED® Credits: MR 4.1 & 4.2 (Recycled Content) and EQ 4.1. (Low-Emitting Materials)
- Does not contribute to. efflorescence
- Flexible to. expand and. contract naturally with glass tile

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Read and understand this technical data sheet and. associated. material safety data sheet completely before beginning. Always use protective clothing (gloves and eye protection) when working with grout. When installing. tile,. follow applicable ANSI, TCNA and NTCA. installation standards..

INSTALLATION

PRIOR TO GROUTING FULL INSTALLATION, APPLY. TO A TEST. AREA TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH APPLICATION AND TO ENSURE PRODUCT. SATISFACTION.

PREPARATION PRIOR TO APPLYING GROUT.

1. Ensure tile. is firmly. set and mortar. is completely. dry.
   NOTE: When waterproofing, ensure. waterproofing. products. are. installed over. the. mud. bed. (not under). Wait at least 24. hours. after. setting tile before grouting with Dimension® RapidCure™. Always follow tile. manufacturer's. instructions. before. grouting.
2. Remove. all. spacers,. water, debris. and. adhesive from. tile joints.. Make sure. the tile and. the grout. joints are clean and. free. of any. contaminants. that may. inhibit the bond. For best results, the surface. of tile should be at room temperature (70°F/21°C to 75°F/24°C). Urethane materials are affected by temperature and humidity variations.. Cool. temperatures and/or high. humidity. will. slow. cure. time.
3. To. facilitate. cleaning it is. helpful to pre-seal. porous or. matte-finished. surfaces. (including. unglazed. porcelain, matte-finished. glazed tile,. and matte glass) with a water-based sealer. (natural stone) or. grout. release (tile),. including. sides of. natural stone. The. textured. surfaces. of. these. tiles allow. the. grout to. settle. into. the. textured surfaces. during. application. making it more difficult to. easily clean..
   For glass, metal, marble, stone and other soft tiles, prepare a mock-up and test the grout to ensure compatibility and that the grout may. be. installed without scratching the tile..
4. Prior. to re-grouting. existing grout joints,. completely. remove. all. of. the old grout and. any surface. contaminants. Rinse. any. residual. material out of grout joints, then allow joints to completely dry before. re-grouting.

TYPICAL WORKING PROPERTIES

Description	Time
Working Time	3 hours
Tack-Free Time	8. hours
Ready for. Light Foot Traffic	24 hours
Ready for Heavy Foot Traffic	3 days
Stain. Resistant (Food,. Beverages,. etc.)	3 days
Cure Time Before Intermittent Water Exposure (>70°F/21°C and <50%. RH)	3 days

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE PROPERTIES (PER ASTM C267)

Chemical Resistance	Typically. Found In	Results
Acetic. Acid. (3%)	Vinegar	Pass
Ammonium. Chloride	Shampoo	Pass
Citric Acid Solution. (100. g/L)	Household Cleaners	Pass
Lactic. Acid	Milk	Pass
Phosphoric. Acid. (10%)	Household Cleaners	Pass
Sulfamic Acid (10%)	Cleaning Agents	Pass
Sodium. Hypochlorite. (1:1) 3%	Bleach,. Household. Chemicals,. Disinfectants	Pass
Hydrochloric. Acid. (10%)	Muriatic. Acid	Pass

Results. shown are typical and. reflect. test procedures used by the. Tile. Council. of. North America. (TCNA).

APPLICATION OF GROUT



1. Lightly. dampen a. sponge. with. clean water and apply to. the. top. of. the. tile. in. a. 2 to. 10. square foot area. (an arm's length). Wet tile enough. to. dampen while ensuring water is. not pooling in grout joints.
   INSTALLATION TIP: Add 1 tablespoon of Dawn® dishwashing liquid per gallon of water and use to pre-wet tile to act as a grout release on matte finished tile. surfaces..
   NOTE: Do not use Dawn®. dishwashing liquid in water. used. to clean-up grout after. application.

WHILE SPREADING GROUT



2. Grout. small. areas. at a time. Typically. grout a 2. to. 10. square foot. area (an arm's. length) or. an area. you can. comfortably grout. in **2 to 3 minutes**. It is more a matter of time spent spreading grout than. distance. covered.. Spreading too. far. without cleaning. within two to three minutes will allow the grout to begin to cure on the surface. of. the. tile. and. create. haze issues.. Work grout back and. forth along. the joint holding the. float at a 45 degree angle to the. face. of. the. tile. ensuring grout joints. are completely packed.. Ensure. you have enough product on. the surface. of the. tile. while grouting. to. ensure you can easily move. it around and pack the joints.. Then hold the. float at a 90 degree. angle to. the face of the tile and moving. the. trowel at a 45. degree angle. to. the. line. of the. grout joint remove. the. excess. grout with the. float.. This. should remove 95% of the grout from the tile surface.



NOTE: For best results, **do not grout a large area** and make sure to clean as you go.

Care, Conservation & Weight

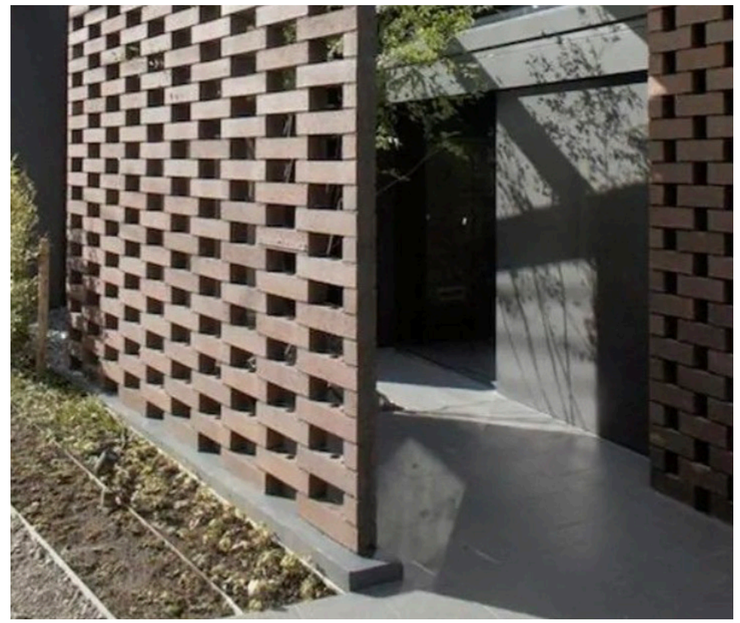
Mosaic:
Remove dust and bird droppings from mosaics with a mild soap and rinse with water at least two times per year.

Replace mosaic pieces if any fall. Extra pieces stored to repair mural if damaged Mosaic can be spot repaired using extra pieces if the artwork is vandalized.

Brick:
Conduct annual inspections for cracks or mortar deterioration, clean annually with mild detergent and water, and prune vegetation away from the brick to prevent moisture buildup and root damage. Schedule repointing, or replacing crumbling mortar, as needed, typically every 40 years. Consider applying a breathable masonry sealer for added protection against water and stains.

Both are highly durable materials that can withstand outdoor climates.

Preliminary weight and distribution of mass:
The weight of the artwork is estimated to be 3000 lbs based on the volume of the materials specified. The weight is distributed over 10’6” long by 5’ wide.





Studies for how to construct the walls

Workplan & Schedule

Workplan

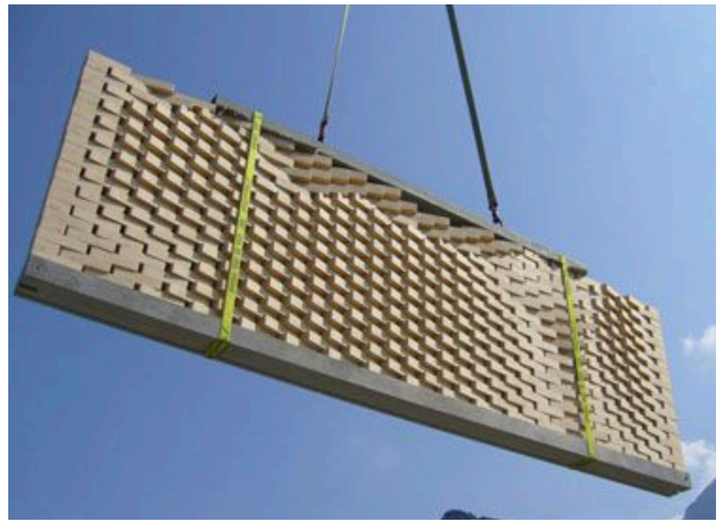
Historical images of people from or at Bruce's Beach will be sourced from public archives and private collections. They will be collaged to create new compositions. The people will be fabricated from a range of sepia colored glass tiles.

For the ceramic tile I will create the imagery and patterns by making positive and negative cyanotype prints from leaves, branches, and other objects from the Bruce's Beach site. The mosaic fabricator will transfer and cure the imagery onto ceramic tiles.

Artwork will be created as three pre-fabricated walls. They will be delivered to site and set into place with a crane or forklift. Each wall will be bolted to each other and to the concrete slab poured on site (by the City.)

The concrete slab will be cast and the surface stamped with a wood plank texture.

Phase	Time Period	Description
Contracting	Nov 2025	
Concept Refinement	Nov 2025 - Jan 2026	Kick-off with fabricator, meeting with families and community, initial cost estimates
Prototyping and Design Development	Jan - March 2026	Incorporate feedback into drawings and prototyping, and engineering, source imagery and acqure use rights, new photography and creation of cyanotype prints for mosaic
Final Design	March - May 2026	finalize brickwork design, finalize mosaic imagery, finalize costs, send artwork to mosaic fabricator, begin site coordination with the City
Structure and Brick Fabrication	May - Sept 2026	Structural framing and patterned brick laying
Mosaic Fabrication	May - Sept 2026	Mosaic and ceramic tile fabrication
Final Assembly	Sept - Oct 2026	Ship Mosaic and install on wall in Los Angeles
Site Prep	Nov 2026	Site preparation and pouring of concrete slab
Deliver Artwork to site	Nov 2026	Artwork delivered by fabricator
Installation	Nov 2026	Artwork installed by City
Opening Celebration	Dec 2026	



Pre-fab walls set in place

Fabricators

Dyson & Womack, the main fabricator, is based in Los Angeles and will develop and engineer the design with me. They will fabricate all structures and install the mosaic tiles from Miotto Mosaic Art Studios and deliver to the site.

Emily Womack
3327 Verdugo Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90065
Email: emily@dysonwomack.com
Phone: 323 685 2800

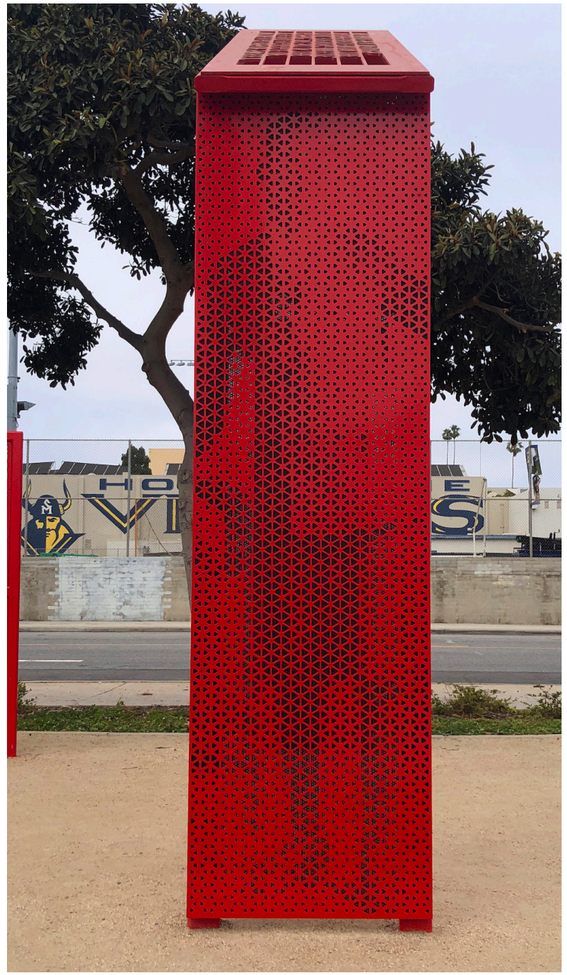
Miotto Mosaic Art Studios, mosaic fabricator
Stephen Miotto
132 Crane Road
Carmel, NY 10512
Email: miottomosaics@mac.com
Phone: (845) 628-8496

Budget

Item	Percent	Total	Cost	Notes
ARTIST CONTRACT				
Artist Fee	20%	**$35,000**		
Fabrication	70%	**$122,500**		
Project Admin			$10,000	Insurance, supplies, travel
Design Development			$10,000	Technical drawings, prototyping
Artwork Engineering			$10,000	Structural engineering and coordination with site engineer
Structural Framing			$14,000	metal and/or concrete, TBD
Brickwork			$16,000	200sf brick + Installation
Mosaic			$40,000	100sf glass & ceramic @ $300/sf + 100sf installation @ $120sf
Delivery to Site			$5,000	
Contingency	10%	**$17,500**		
TOTAL	**100%**	**$175,000**		
NOT IN ARTIST CONTRACT				
Engineering				
Soil Testing / Site Prep				
Concrete Base				
Permitting				
Installation				
Art Label				
Conservation Report				
Documentation				
TOTAL		$175,000		
PROJECT TOTAL		**$350,000**		

Past Work







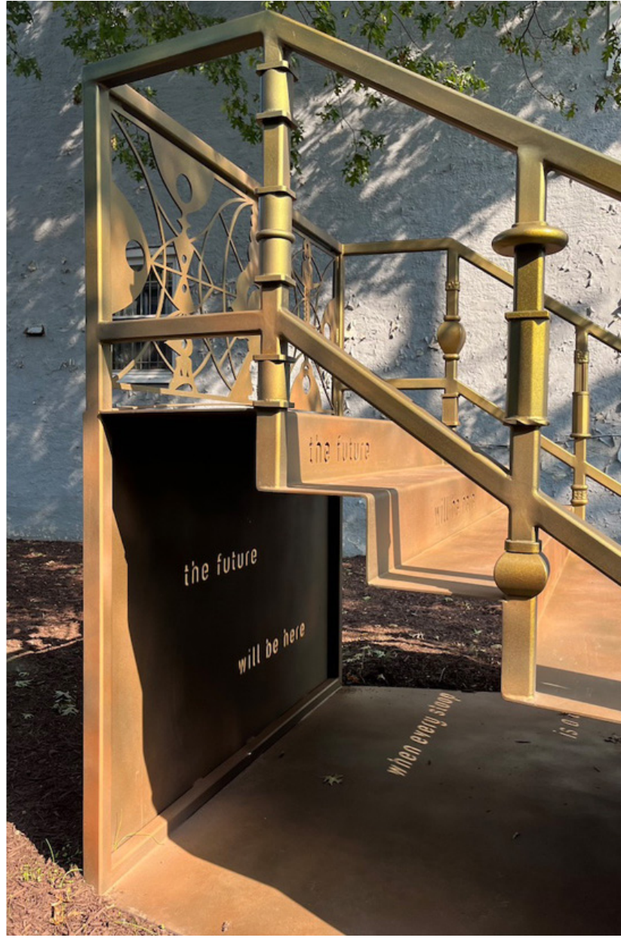

AS WE CLIMB
DEEDS NOT WORDS
JACKIE ROBINSON PARK
SUN VILLAGE



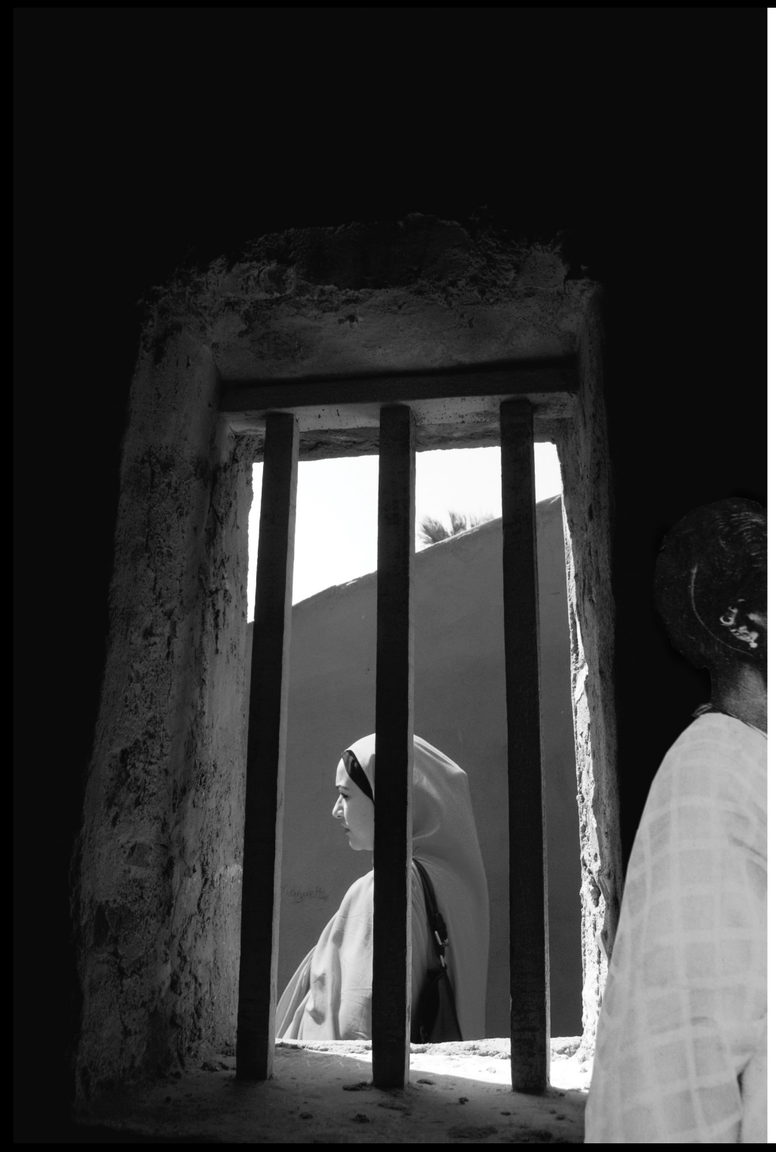



the future
will be here
when every stoop
is a throne

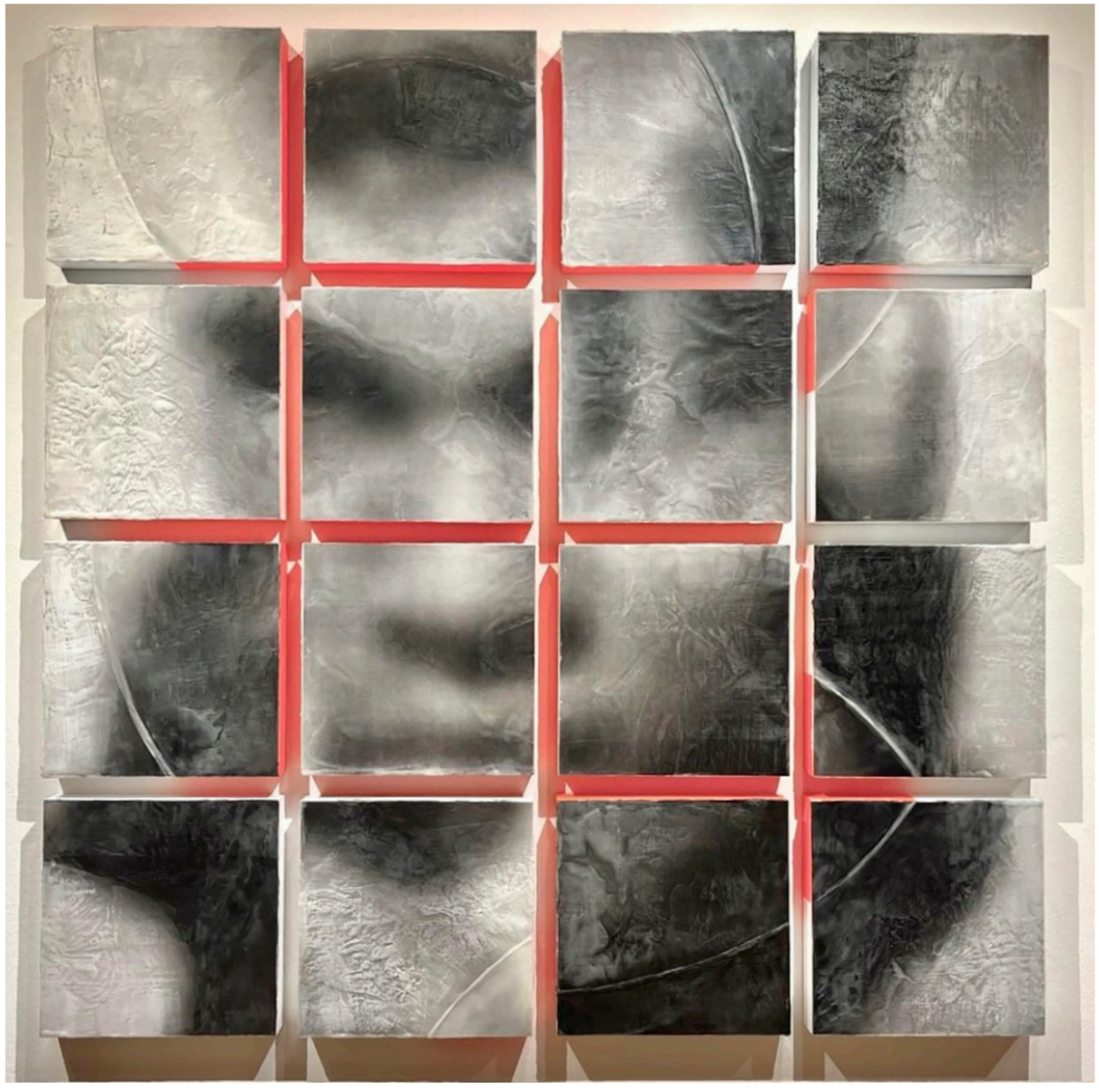



the future
will be here












ore Entering School
Sioux '97.


ROBERT TAYLOR
TEAS·COFFEES
SPICES
LIFEGUARD
OFF DUTY
911
KEEP OFF
Caring for Your Coast

Thank You